

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1-28, 31-32, 35-38, and 42-44 are now canceled. Claim 29 has been amended into independent form to include all of the limitations of claims 24 and 25 as suggested by the Examiner in the prior office action. Claim 30 has not been amended, but depends from claim 29. Claims 33-34, 39-41, and 45-46 have been amended to depend from claim 29.

The Examiner indicated that claim 29 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore it is respectfully believed that claim 29 is now in condition for allowance. It is further believed that claims 30, 33-34, 39-41 and 45-46 are now in condition for allowance as well, as they depend from allowable claim 29 and add further limitations to the allowable claim.

### **1. Rejection of Claim 24-27, 45 and 46 Under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)**

Given that applicants have now canceled claims 24-27, the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is believed to be moot. Claims 45 and 46 now depend from allowable claim 29, so the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) is believed to be moot.

### **2. Rejection of Claims 28 and 42 Under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)**

Given that applicants have now canceled claims 28 and 42, the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is believed to be moot.

### **3. Claims 29-30, 33-34, 39-41, and 45-46**

Applicants has amended claim 29 to place it in independent form and claims 33-34, 39-42 and 45-46 to depend from claim 29.

Claims 30, 33-34, 39-41, and 45-46, which depend either directly or ultimately from independent claim 29, are believed to be in condition for allowance for at least the reasons claim 29 is allowable as identified by the Examiner. Accordingly, allowance of claims 29-30, 33-34, 39-41, and 45-46 is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

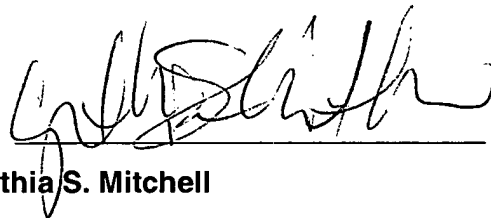
In light of the amendments and remarks provided herein, applicants respectfully request the timely issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marvin G. Wong, et al.

Dated:

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By:



**Cynthia S. Mitchell**

**Attorney for Applicant**

Reg. No. 36,081  
(970) 679-3136

Agilent Technologies, Inc.  
Legal Department, DL429  
P.O. Box 7599  
Loveland, Colorado 80537-0599